

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-31 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 15, 21, and 31 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 10, 15, 21 and 31 are sought be amended to define the claimed invention even more clearly. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 3-8, 12, 15, 17-19, 21, and 27-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,206,899 issued to Gupta *et al.* (Gupta) or U.S. Pat. No. 5,978,450 issued to McAllister *et al.* (McAllister). *See*, Office Action, pp. 2-3. Claims 2, 9, 13, 14, 16, 20, 22-24 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gupta in view of McAllister. *See*, Office Action, pp. 3-4. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Technical differences exist between the claimed invention and the applied references, taken alone or in combination. Gupta describes a method and apparatus for providing a service that allows a subscriber at any location to dynamically provision which is an active phone accessible in a network. The subscriber can call from a target station which can include a pay phone or mobile phone. An (Automatic Number Identification) ANI trigger table and query database are updated. The target station then receives special billing and custom calling features of the subscriber. *See, e.g.*, Gupta,

col. 2, ln. 45-col. 3, ln. 44. Similarly, McAllister is drawn to providing personalized communication services based on a voice identification of subscriber. A switching office uses profile data associated with the subscriber to control services over a link. *See, e.g.,* McAllister, Abstract and col. 4, ln. 4-col. 5, ln. 67.

Thus, at the very least, neither Gupta nor McAllister, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest a plurality of telephones including at least one dynamically configurable telephone having an input for toggling on and off dynamic configuration of the telephone by a user or an indicator for indicating whether dynamic configuration is on or off, as now recited in independent system claims 1 and 15. Further, neither Gupta nor McAllister, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest sending a signal to the first telephone indicating the dynamic configuration of the first telephone is complete, and providing an indication on the first telephone when the signal is received at the first telephone, as now recited in independent method 21 and 31.

Dependent claims 2-9, 12-14, 16-20, 22-24 and 26-30 are likewise patentable for at least the same reasons as they claims from which directly or indirectly depend, and further in view of their own respective features.

Dependent claims 10, 11 and 25 were objected to but were indicated as being allowable otherwise.

Conclusion

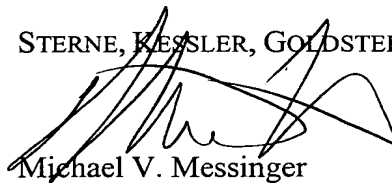
All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the

Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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